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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND
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Thirty-third session
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Agenda item 8

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Wolfgang STÖCKL (Germany)

II. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

Section 10. Department for Development Support and Management Services

1. At its 30th and 31st meetings, on 19 October 1993, the Committee considered section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Discussion

2. A number of delegations supported the proposed programme of work, while considering that the programme narratives of this section did not adequately reflect the activities proposed, in particular the objectives of the Department.

3. Some delegations indicated that the proposed programme of work contained a number of duplications of the activities undertaken in other departments and offices in the economic and social sectors. Other delegations stressed the importance of coordinating activities among the Department for Development Support and Management Services, the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. A number of delegations emphasized the importance of the

coordination of activities of the Department for Development Support and Management Services with the United Nations Development Programme and other agencies of the United Nations system.

4. Several delegations noted with concern the reduction in the level of regular budget and extrabudgetary resources for 1994-1995. Some other delegations, however, welcomed the overall reduction in those resources and queried the increases in some areas.

5. Some delegations felt that the Department's activities should not focus on the least developed countries and economies in transition but should address issues pertinent to all developing countries. Some other delegations emphasized the need not to overlook the specific problems facing countries in transition within the mandate of the Department.

6. Several delegations felt that the relation between the medium-term plan and budget resources as well as priorities were not clearly reflected in the narratives of this section.

7. One delegation felt that in the integration of social groups activities the role of the army should be emphasized.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of the programme narrative of section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, it being understood that the proposals of the Secretary-General in respect of decentralization would be considered at a later stage on the basis of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General and that the Department in its activities would focus on the substantive matters within its mandate rather than on particular groups of countries.